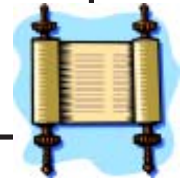


Bar/Bat Mitzvah Monthly Project



Month 9
before your Bar/Bat Mitzvah

PUTTING THE MITZVAH IN BAR/BAT MITZVAH!

I. RESPONSIBILITIES VS PRIVILEGES

This activity involves your parent(s) and you. Read the following quote below:

The Talmud says –

“At 5 years the age is reached for the study of Torah, at 10 for the study of the Mishnah, at 13 for the fulfillment of mitzvot (commandments), at 15 for the study of Talmud, at 18 for marriage, at 20 for seeking a livelihood, at 30 for entering into one’s full strength, at 40 for understanding, at 50 for counsel, at 60 a man attains old age...”

At every stage of life, the Talmud teaches us that there are new responsibilities and new privileges attached to that time. With your family, fill out this chart:

	<i>Responsibilities</i>	<i>Privileges</i>
At age 5		
At age 10		
At age 13		
At age 18		
At age 30		

II. ARE YOU FULFILLING COMMANDMENTS?

Every Shabbat morning, we read in the prayerbook that the Talmud teaches us about certain mitzvot that we should do on a regular basis. The prayer reads: “These are the duties whose worth cannot be measured: honoring one’s father and mother, acts of love and kindness, diligent pursuit of knowledge and wisdom, hospitality to strangers, visiting the sick, celebrating with bride and groom, consoling the bereaved, praying with sincerity, making peace where there is strife. And the study of Torah leads to them all.”

For one full week, from the beginning of one Shabbat to the next, record all the mitzvot that you do according to the attached Family Mitzvah Chart. On your chart, describe what each person did under each category. At the end of the week, look at the chart. What lessons did everyone learn from this? What behaviors did you need to change to perform these mitzvot? Are there mitzvot on this list that you will now continue to do on a regular basis?

Our Family Mitzvah Chart

Keep this family Mitzvah chart for one week -- from the beginning of Shabbat to the next. On it, describe what each person in your family did in each category. At the end of the week, look at the chart. What have you learned about how your family performs Mitzvot? Would you make any changes to the way your family performs Mitzvot?

Mitzvah	Who Performed this? How?	Who Performed this? How?	Who Performed this? How?	Who Performed this? How?	Who Performed this? How?
Honoring Parents					
Performing Deeds of Loving Kindness					
Caring for the environment					
Visiting the Sick					
Reciting Shabbat Blessings					
Studying Torah					
Showing Hospitality to Guests					
Refraining from speaking gossip					
Honoring the elderly					
Reciting the Motzi at every meal					